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For immediate release
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2003 Packard Fellowships for Science and Engineering Awarded to Sixteen Young Researchers

LOS ALTOS, California — The David and Lucile Packard Foundation has named 16 new promising scientific researchers as the 2003 recipients of Packard Foundation Fellowships for Science and Engineering. Each Fellow will receive an unrestricted research grant of $625,000 over five years.

The Fellowship Program was established in 1988 and arose out of David Packard’s commitment to strengthening university-based science and engineering programs. By supporting unusually creative researchers early in their careers, the Foundation hopes to develop scientific leaders, further the work of promising young scientists and engineers, and support efforts to attract talented graduate students into university research in the United States.

“The long-term commitment to the Fellowship Program has enabled scientists to pursue innovative lines of scientific inquiry and to inspire and train the next generation of young scientists and engineers,” said Lynn Orr, Keleen and Carlton Beal Professor at Stanford University and chairman of the Fellowship Advisory Panel. “Their research will make a positive impact on local, national, and global levels.” Orr is a member of the Foundation Board of Trustees.

Over the past fifteen years, the Fellowship Program has awarded 332 Fellowships, totaling over $192 million, to faculty members at 51 top national universities. It is among the nation’s largest nongovernmental programs designed to seek out and reward the pursuit of scientific discovery with "no strings attached" support. The Fellowship Program funds Fellows’ research in a broad range of disciplines that includes physics, chemistry, mathematics, biology, astronomy, computer science, earth science, ocean science, and all branches of engineering.

The 2003 Fellows were nominated by their university presidents. The 99 nominations were reviewed by the Fellowship Advisory Panel, a group of nationally recognized scientists, which then recommended 16 Fellows for approval by the Packard Foundation Board of Trustees.

The recipients of the 2003 Packard Foundation Fellowships in Science and Engineering are:
Amy J. Barger  
Department of Astronomy  
University of Wisconsin, Madison

David A. Blank  
Department of Chemistry  
University of Minnesota

Hilary Bart-Smith  
Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering  
University of Virginia

Joseph L. DeRisi  
Department of Biochemistry and Biophysics  
University of California, San Francisco

Shanhui Fan  
Department of Electrical Engineering  
Stanford University

Babak Hassibi  
Division of Engineering and Applied Sciences  
California Institute of Technology

Wayne Hu  
Department of Astronomy and Astrophysics  
University of Chicago

Piotr Indyk  
Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Douglas Natelson  
Department of Physics and Astronomy  
Rice University

Teri. W. Odom  
Department of Chemistry and Chemical Biology  
Northwestern University

Eliot Quataert  
Department of Astronomy  
University of California, Berkeley

Joan-Emma Shea  
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry  
University of California, Santa Barbara

Scott K. Silverman  
Department of Chemistry  
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

David L. Stern  
Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology  
Princeton University

Mary E. Williams  
Department of Chemistry  
Pennsylvania State University

Xiaowei Zhuang  
Department of Chemistry  
Harvard University
The David and Lucile Packard Foundation is a private family foundation created in 1964 by David Packard (1912-1996), cofounder of the Hewlett-Packard Company, and Lucile Salter Packard (1914-1987). The Foundation provides grants to nonprofit organizations in the following program areas: Conservation and Science; Population; and Children, Families, and Communities. The Foundation makes national and international grants and also has a special focus on the Northern California Counties of San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, and Monterey. Foundation grantmaking includes support for a wide variety of activities including direct services, research and policy development, and public information and education. The Foundation does not make grants intended to influence legislation or support candidates for political office. Foundation assets were approximately $4.8 billion as of December 31, 2002. General program grant awards totaled approximately $230 million in 2002. The Foundation has a grantmaking budget of approximately $200 million in 2003.